

N E W S R E L E A S E

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California's unemployment rate unchanged at 9.8 percent

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate was unchanged at 9.8 percent in December, and nonfarm payroll jobs decreased by 17,500 during the month for a total gain of 556,500 jobs since the recovery began in February 2010, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate also was unchanged in December at 7.8 percent.

In November, the state's unemployment rate was 9.8 percent, and in December 2011, the unemployment rate was 11.2 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,398,800 in December, a decrease of 17,500 jobs over the month, according to a survey of businesses that is larger and less variable statistically. The survey of 42,000 California businesses measures jobs in the economy. The year-over-year change (December 2011 to December 2012) shows an increase of 225,900 jobs (up 1.6 percent).

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA

The federal survey of households, done with a smaller sample than the survey of employers, shows an increase in the number of employed people. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in December was 16,663,000, an increase of 73,000 from November, and up 248,000 from the employment total in December of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 1,805,000 – down by 1,000 over the month, and down by 255,000 compared with December of last year.

(more)

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,398,800 in December, a net loss of 17,500 jobs since the November survey. This followed a gain of 6,100 jobs (as revised) in November.

Three categories (construction; information; and educational and health services) added jobs over the month, gaining 16,800 jobs. Educational and health services posted the largest increase over the month, adding 9,200 jobs.

Eight categories (mining and logging; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; financial activities; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and government) reported job declines over the month, down 34,300 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities posted the largest decrease over the month, down 11,200 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (December 2011 to December 2012), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 225,900 jobs (up 1.6 percent).

Seven categories (construction; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality) posted job gains over the year, adding 277,400 jobs. Leisure and hospitality posted the largest gains on a numerical basis, adding 60,700 jobs (up 3.9 percent). Information posted the largest gains on a percentage basis, up 4.7 percent (adding 21,100 jobs).

Four categories (mining and logging; manufacturing; other services; and government) posted job declines over the year, down 51,500 jobs. Government posted the largest declines on a numerical basis, down by 31,500 jobs (a 1.3 percent decrease). Other services posted the largest declines on a percentage basis, decreasing by 1.7 percent (down 8,400 jobs).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 496,500 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the December survey week. This compares with 391,870 last month and 536,442 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 51,545 in December 2012, compared with 39,879 in November and 80,276 in December of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	December 2012 (prelim.)	November 2012 (revised)	December 2011	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	14,398.8	14,416.3	14,172.9	1.6
Mining and logging	28.1	28.2	28.3	-0.7
Construction	582.7	578.6	558.2	4.4
Manufacturing	1,231.2	1,233.8	1,242.6	-0.9
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,736.4	2,747.6	2,687.0	1.8
Information	468.2	464.7	447.1	4.7
Financial activities	782.4	783.1	764.1	2.4
Professional and business services	2,213.4	2,222.2	2,164.6	2.3
Educational and health services	1,913.6	1,904.4	1,859.0	2.9
Leisure and hospitality	1,606.0	1,609.8	1,545.3	3.9
Other services	478.1	483.4	486.5	-1.7
Government*	2,358.7	2,360.5	2,390.2	-1.3
Agriculture	381.7	386.5	385.7	-1.0

*Includes all civilian employees of federal, state, and local governments.

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	December 2012 (prelim.)	November 2012 (revised)	October 2012	December 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,468,000	18,396,000	18,360,000	18,475,000
Total civilian employment	16,663,000	16,590,000	16,511,000	16,415,000
Unemployment	1,805,000	1,806,000	1,848,000	2,060,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	9.8	9.8	10.1	11.2
US seasonally adjusted rate %	7.8	7.8	7.9	8.5

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	December 2012 (prelim.)	November 2012 (revised)	October 2012	December 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,490,000	18,444,000	18,443,000	18,432,000
Total civilian employment	16,689,000	16,668,000	16,640,000	16,414,000
Unemployment	1,800,000	1,775,000	1,802,000	2,018,000
Unadjusted rate %	9.7	9.6	9.8	10.9

^a Labor force by place of residence including workers involved in trade disputes.

² Seasonal adjustment is a statistical method that removes typical employment patterns that occur at various times throughout the year (e.g., additional retail hiring during the holiday season).

MONTHLY LABOR FORCE DATA FOR COUNTIES
December 2012 (Preliminary); 2011 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	18,489,600	16,689,200	1,800,400	9.7%
ALAMEDA	776,200	712,300	63,900	8.2%
ALPINE	480	420	60	11.6%
AMADOR	16,450	14,620	1,830	11.1%
BUTTE	101,300	89,600	11,700	11.6%
CALAVERAS	19,300	16,980	2,320	12.0%
COLUSA	11,580	8,840	2,740	23.7%
CONTRA COSTA	534,200	490,500	43,800	8.2%
DEL NORTE	11,410	9,900	1,510	13.2%
EL DORADO	90,500	82,000	8,500	9.4%
FRESNO	439,900	374,500	65,400	14.9%
GLENN	12,650	10,830	1,820	14.4%
HUMBOLDT	60,500	54,700	5,800	9.6%
IMPERIAL	77,100	57,400	19,700	25.5%
INYO	9,400	8,560	850	9.0%
KERN	381,400	329,700	51,600	13.5%
KINGS	62,000	53,100	8,900	14.4%
LAKE	24,990	21,220	3,770	15.1%
LASSEN	12,780	11,200	1,580	12.3%
LOS ANGELES	4,863,400	4,367,400	496,000	10.2%
MADERA	64,300	55,400	8,900	13.9%
MARIN	140,600	132,800	7,800	5.5%
MARIPOSA	9,390	8,380	1,020	10.8%
MENDOCINO	42,120	38,120	4,000	9.5%
MERCED	110,000	91,100	18,900	17.2%
MODOC	3,660	3,140	530	14.4%
MONO	9,060	8,290	760	8.4%
MONTEREY	222,600	193,500	29,100	13.1%
NAPA	74,700	68,800	5,900	7.9%
NEVADA	50,760	46,360	4,390	8.7%
ORANGE	1,624,200	1,514,500	109,700	6.8%
PLACER	174,700	159,600	15,000	8.6%
PLUMAS	9,260	7,880	1,380	14.9%
RIVERSIDE	946,700	841,900	104,800	11.1%
SACRAMENTO	673,600	607,200	66,400	9.9%
SAN BENITO	27,300	23,600	3,700	13.6%
SAN BERNARDINO	869,900	776,000	94,000	10.8%
SAN DIEGO	1,609,500	1,479,200	130,200	8.1%
SAN FRANCISCO	478,700	447,800	30,900	6.5%
SAN JOAQUIN	302,100	258,400	43,800	14.5%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	139,300	129,000	10,200	7.3%
SAN MATEO	394,800	371,000	23,800	6.0%
SANTA BARBARA	229,400	211,800	17,500	7.6%
SANTA CLARA	926,300	857,200	69,100	7.5%
SANTA CRUZ	155,100	138,100	17,000	11.0%
SHASTA	85,300	75,100	10,200	12.0%
SIERRA	1,700	1,480	220	12.7%
SISKIYOU	18,870	15,880	2,990	15.9%
SOLANO	219,700	199,200	20,500	9.3%
SONOMA	261,700	241,600	20,100	7.7%
STANISLAUS	234,500	199,400	35,100	15.0%
SUTTER	42,700	35,200	7,500	17.6%
TEHAMA	24,990	21,700	3,290	13.2%
TRINITY	4,670	3,970	700	15.1%
TULARE	207,400	174,900	32,600	15.7%
TUOLUMNE	25,440	22,600	2,840	11.2%
VENTURA	442,700	404,900	37,800	8.5%
YOLO	99,100	87,500	11,500	11.7%
YUBA	27,300	22,900	4,300	15.8%

*Not seasonally adjusted

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